

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Claim 2 is amended and new Claims 12-18 are added by the present amendment. As amended Claim 2 and new Claims 12-18 are supported by the original claims and specification,<sup>1</sup> no new matter is added

In the outstanding Office Action, the drawings were objected to, Claims 1-2 and 9-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Rowlands (U.S. Patent No. 6,071,077); and Claims 3-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Rowlands. Claim 8 was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that Claim 8 includes allowable subject matter.

With regard to the objection to the drawings, new Figure 3C is submitted herewith which illustrates the subject matter of Claim 8. New Figure 3C is supported at least by original Claim 8 and page 11, lines 1-15. No new matter is added. The specification is also amended herewith to include brief and detailed descriptions of Figure 3C. Accordingly, the objection to the drawings is believed to be overcome.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Rowlands, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites in part, "said top portion presents a backward longitudinal angle of inclination for said leading edge line and a tangential angle of inclination for said line of the centers of gravity of the blade sections in a direction opposite to the direction of rotation of said blade."

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<sup>1</sup>See, e.g., specification at page 3, lines 18-22 and page 8, lines 13-17.

In contrast, Rowlands does not describe “a tangential angle of inclination for said line of the centers of gravity of the blade sections in a direction opposite to the direction of rotation of said blade” as recited in Claim 1. The outstanding Office Action at page 3, lines 20-22 asserts that Figure 1 of Rowlands shows this feature, but it is respectfully submitted that there is no indication of this feature in the specification or drawings of Rowlands. Figure 1 of Rowlands only illustrates the rotor in a perspective view, whereas the tangential inclination of the blade shown in Figure 1 of Rowlands can be seen in a transversal view (similar to Figure 3B of the present application). However, the outstanding Office Action does not cite to a transversal view of Rowlands that shows a tangential angle of inclination of a line of the centers of gravity of the blade. Further, the description of Figure 1 of Rowlands<sup>2</sup> does not even describe the location on Figure 1 of the centers of gravity of the blades, much less describe the above-quoted feature of Claim 1. Accordingly, as Rowlands does not teach “a tangential angle of inclination for said line of the centers of gravity of the blade sections in a direction opposite to the direction of rotation of said blade” as recited in Claim 1, Claim 1 (and Claims 2-11 dependent therefrom) is not anticipated by Rowlands and is patentable thereover.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 3-7 as unpatentable over Rowlands, it is noted that Claims 3-7 are dependent from Claim 1, and thus are believed to be patentable over Rowlands for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1.

New Claim 12 includes the subject matter of original Claims 1 and 8, and new Claims 13-18 include the subject matter of original Claims 2-7, respectively. Accordingly, new Claim 12 (and Claims 13-18 dependent therefrom) is believed to be allowable.

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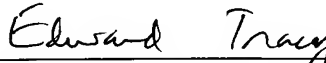
<sup>2</sup>See Rowlands at column 4, line 48 to column 5, line 7.

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Accordingly, in view of the present amendment and in light of the previous discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request an early and favorable action to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes new Figure 3C.

Attachment: 1 New Sheet